

ABSTRACT

Methods and apparatus for data distribution among servers in a grouped server system. Each server in the group includes a device manager which is responsible for brokering devices to services. A service communicates to a device manager on the same server through an inter-process communication mechanism. A desktop unit, having persistent connections with a single device manager, switches to a peer (other device managers in the group) when the desktop unit is reset or when a device manager fails. At least one device is connected to the desktop unit. When the desktop unit is connected to the new device manager, ownership of the devices may change. The new device manager notifies its peers of any device status changes.

[illegible]